

Mayor's Message

May 2010

This is my favorite time of year to drive around our City. Everything is growing again and the spring flowers are in full bloom. It also means it is time to tune up the lawn mowers and sharpen the clippers to maintain all this growth. When I did landscaping for a living, it meant the beginning of long days and satisfaction at seeing well-manicured properties. Once it gets in your blood, it is hard to let the desire for beautiful surroundings leave you. We have made many improvements around our City over the years to make it a more welcoming place. The improvements at Ken Price Ball Park that we finished last year are a perfect example of this. Because having a beautiful City is a passion of mine, you can only imagine the excitement I felt at discovering a program called "America in Bloom."

"America in Bloom" is a national competition that showcases cities that have worked to make their towns aesthetically pleasing. We have decided to participate in this contest this year. On June 28th and 29th, national judges will visit Murray to evaluate us and see what we are all about. A beautiful City profile has been put together by Becky Hansen and Kim Sorensen, who are the City representatives for this project. I would love it if you would go to the City website at www.murray.utah.gov and look at the "America in Bloom" link. When Kim and Becky showed me the profile, I was absolutely blown away by the work they had done to showcase our City. I felt a tremendous amount of community pride as I reviewed the many accomplishments that have been made to beautify Murray.

The judging process involves taking them to see a variety of locations in our City, including neighborhoods. As part of this competition, I would like to have a competition for you to join. Do you have a project in your yard that you have been meaning to undertake, but have been waiting to do for whatever reason? Well, now is the time to do it and participate in our "Look What We Did!" contest. You will find the rules and application under the same "America in Bloom" link on our website, or you can pick them up at the Murray Parks Office. The contest is to take a photo of the area you are going to improve **before** you begin and a second one **after** you are done. There will be a number of prizes, including the opportunity to bring the judges by to view your handiwork. The contest entries are due by June 21st.

Even if you don't have a project, would you please join forces with us to help beautify your homes, schools and neighborhoods? Anything that can be done before judging at the end of June will add shine to the City and improve our opportunities to do well in the competition. I hope to see many of you out planting, mowing, trimming, weeding, picking up trash and working to make Murray a trophy City for "America in Bloom." Thank you for your help in showing, "There's More to Murray."